

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A computer system comprising:

a processor coupled to bus;

a memory unit coupled to said bus;

a display screen coupled to said bus;

a digitizer coupled to said bus;

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a case for supporting said processor, said memory unit, said display screen and said digitizer, said case having a slot located therein for receiving a stylus;

a detector for detecting said stylus in said slot;

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a switch coupled to said detector for generating a signal to power up said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when said stylus is removed from said slot and wherein said switch is also for generating a signal to place said processor, said display screen and said digitizer into a power conservation mode when said stylus is inserted into said slot.

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2. A computer system as described in Claim 1 wherein said detector is located within said slot and is a mechanical detector.

3. A computer system as described in Claim 1 wherein said detector is located within said slot and is an optical detector.

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4. A computer system as described in Claim 1 wherein said detector is located within said slot and is an electrical detector.

5. A computer system as described in Claim 1 wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer system.

5 6. A computer system as described in Claim 1 further comprising a battery, wherein said battery constantly supplies power to said memory unit but selectively supplies power to said processor, said display screen and said digitizer based on a mode of said switch.

10 7. A computer system as described in Claim 1 and further comprising an on/off button for placing said processor, said display screen and said digitizer into said power conservation mode when pressed while said computer system is powered on and wherein said on/off button is for powering on said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when pressed while said  
15 computer system is in said power conservation mode.

8. A computer system as described in Claim 1 wherein said digitizer comprises:

20 a first region for capturing stroke data associated with alphabetic characters and not numeric characters; and

a second region for capturing stroke data associated with numeric characters and not alphabetic characters.

25 9. A computer system as described in Claim 8 wherein said digitizer is separate in area from said display screen.

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10. In a computer system comprising a processor, a memory unit, a display screen and a digitizer, a method of using said computer system comprising the steps of:

5 a) detecting a user removing a stylus from a slot in a case, said case supporting said processor, said memory unit, said display screen and said digitizer;

b) responsive to said step a), automatically placing said processor, said display screen and said digitizer in a full power-up mode to power-up said computer system;

10 c) detecting a user inserting said stylus into said slot of said case;

d) responsive to said step c), automatically placing said processor, said display screen and said digitizer in a power conservation mode to power-down said computer system.

15 11. A method as described in Claim 10 wherein said steps a) and b) are implemented using a detector mounted in said slot of said case and a switch.

20 12. A method as described in Claim 11 wherein said detector is a mechanical detector.

13. A method as described in Claim 11 wherein said detector is an optical detector.

25 14. A method as described in Claim 11 wherein said detector is an electrical detector.

15. A method as described in Claim 10 wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer system.

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5 16. A method as described in Claim 10 further comprising the step of constantly supplying power to said memory unit.

17. A method as described in Claim 10 wherein said computer system further comprises an on/off button and further comprising the steps of:

10 e) provided said computer system is powered-up, powering-down said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when said on/off button is pressed; and

15 f) provided said computer system is powered-down, powering-up said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when said on/off button is pressed.

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20 18. A computer system comprising:  
a processor coupled to bus;  
a memory unit coupled to said bus;  
a display screen coupled to said bus;  
a digitizer coupled to said bus;  
a case for supporting said processor, said memory unit, said display screen and said digitizer, said case having a slot located therein for receiving a hinge attached to a protective cover;

25 a detector for detecting positions of said hinge within said slot;  
switch coupled to said detector for generating a signal to automatically power up said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when said hinge is rotated such that said cover is not laid over said display screen and

wherein said switch is also for generating a signal to automatically place said processor, said display screen and said digitizer into a power conservation mode when said hinge is rotated such that said cover is laid over said display screen.

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19. A computer system as described in Claim 18 wherein said detector is located within said slot.

10 20. A computer system as described in Claim 19 wherein said detector is an electrical detector.

21. A computer system as described in Claim 18 wherein said computer system is a palmtop computer system.

15 22. A computer system as described in Claim 18 further comprising a battery, wherein said battery constantly supplies power to said memory unit but selectively supplies power to said processor, said display screen and said digitizer based on a mode of said switch.

20 23. A computer system as described in Claim 18 and further comprising an on/off button for placing said processor, said display screen and said digitizer into said power conservation mode when pressed while said computer system is powered up and wherein said on/off button is for powering up said processor, said display screen and said digitizer when pressed while  
25 said computer system is in said power conservation mode.

24. A computer ~~system~~ as described in Claim 18 wherein said digitizer

a first region for capturing stroke data associated with alphabetic

a second region for capturing stroke data associated with numeric

characters and not alphabetic characters.

[illegible]